

THE AGITATOR

A SEMI-MONTHLY ADVOCATE OF SYNDICALISM, THE MODERN SCHOOL, INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM

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HOME, (LAKEBAY P. O.) WASHINGTON, JUNE 15, 1912

WHOLE NO. 39

The Passing Show

The New Spirit of Labor.

Being in close touch with the Revolutionary movement in the West, it is plain to me its tactics are undergoing a change. There is a strong feeling that the few who have borne the brunt of the battle cannot long hold out against the combined forces of capitalism and government unless the masses come to their assistance. So they are seriously considering a new move. In fact, the movement has already begun.

It is asserted the mass of organized workers must be educated to the point where they will pitch in and fight their own battles and not leave the fighting to the few Revolutionists. So a movement is on foot to carry the propaganda into the unions, as our comrades in France have done with such telling effect.

The series of articles appearing in *The Agitator*, under the title, "Revolutionary Tactics," is the expression of the new spirit, and they are having a pronounced effect upon the Anarchists, the I. W. W. and the radical wings of the trade unionists and Socialist party. Syndicalist Leagues have already been organized at various points and the movement is gathering new adherents on every hand. Prominent men, alive to the new conditions, are forsaking politics for Syndicalism. Active organizers in the I. W. W. are urging it upon that organization. *The Agitator* is propagating Syndicalism with all the power at its command. For it recognizes in Syndicalism the evolutionary method, growing out of the ranks of labor, instead of the philosopher's brain.

The Revolutionists have forsaken the old unions, and the "fakers" and Socialists are now in full control of the A. F. of L., with the Socialists gradually wrenching the power from the "fakers." The "fakers" have their meal tickets to conserve. The Socialists have a voting machine to feed. So the unions are little better under the domination of one or the other of these elements. Neither of them is sincere.

The Socialist does not believe the unions can emancipate the workers. All they are designed for, in his opinion, is to fight for better conditions under capitalism. In this the Socialist and "faker" are one. Both see in the unions merely a good field for exploitation, with the advantage strongly in favor of the Socialist, who has in them a double graft. For, while working to make the labor movement a tail to his political kite, he never refuses a pie card when they are being passed around.

The Syndicalist takes the position that it is scientifically wrong to think that a small body of Revolutionists, by forming a separate organization, like, for instance, the I. W. W., can break down the A. F. of L.; if, indeed, such a consummation was desirable to the welfare of the working class. The Syndicalist holds that it is neither necessary nor desirable to destroy the old unions. He holds that the A. F. of L. is a body of workers who have

started on the road to their emancipation; that it is by no means a crystallized institution, but, on the contrary, is fluid and subject to the influences that play upon it. He wants to build without tearing down the foundation laid at a great cost by the toilers. He is no stickler for particular forms of organization. He holds that ideas are master of form, and that where they exist the form of expression adjusts itself automatically. He is scientific without being a scientist. He follows the inductive method of reasoning without knowing Bacon.

Socialist Party and Sabotage.

I have often made the assertion on this page that the Socialist Party has degenerated into a bourgeois, office-grabbing institution, under the domination of a lot of professionals, who have no understanding of working class ideals, and who use the working class discontent, like the middle class has always used it—as a stepping stone to the attainment of its own selfish, bourgeois ends. It was left to the last convention of the party to give absolute proof of my assertions. Out of its own mouth let me convict it.

By a vote of 191 to 90 the following was added to the constitution:

"Any member of the party who opposes political action or advocates crime, sabotage and other forms of violence as a weapon of the working class to aid in its emancipation shall be expelled from membership in the party. Political action shall be construed to mean participation in elections for public office and practical legislative and administrative work along the lines of the Socialist party platform."

It is the eternal mark of the bourgeois that he is law abiding, a respectable today to upper class favor. He despises the vulgar habits of the proletariat, and while currying favor with him today for his vote, will vigilante him tomorrow if he withholds that favor and declares for some revolutionary method whereby he and not the bourgeois will be benefited.

Alexander Irvine classified 129 professionals, delegates at the convention of this "working man's party," among whom were 21 editors, 20 lawyers and 11 preachers.

Karl Legien told the convention that: "In our German movement we have no room for sabotage and similar syndicalist tendencies."

Of course not. The bourgeois' love for property is intolerant of any and all working class methods that have a tendency towards the desecration of the sacred idol.

It is well these pretenders are being forced to show their hands. The toilers are dull, but they are not wholly blind.

I. W. W. An Experiment.

We must not lose sight of the fact that the I. W. W. is an experiment, and, like all experiments, subject to modification. It is an experiment only in its tactics. Its basis is not an experiment, but the result of ages of experience that has been modified and changed a hundred times during its evolution. Revolutionary, Industrial mass action—the basis of the I. W. W.—had its beginning when the first dozen men organized the first strike. Today it demands a world wide strike, and we

are experimenting in the all-important methods of educating the workers in the means to that end.

Don't Forget Mexico.

So many small things are rattling around us that we do not hear the roar of the Mexican Revolutionary cannon, with that degree of distinctness which we otherwise should. What can we do for our Mexican fellow slaves? We can help them keep their press going by subscribing to "Regeneracion." We can let the masters of this country who are also the masters of Mexico, or were until the Revolution took hold, that their fight is ours and that we will not tolerate "intervention."

As the trial of Clarence Darrow proceeds it becomes plain that the whole prosecution is a frameup, and that Franklin, the informer, was put into the employ of the McNamara defense for the sole purpose of working it up. A jury of honest men cannot believe the despicable rascal.

The Brewery Workers, by a vote of two to one, have rejected a proposed plan of insurance against death and injury. The majority rightly held that such schemes tended to destroy the fighting spirit of the union. A union is a fighting organization, not an insurance society.

Here in America we have the right to "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness," beautifully engrossed on parchment, and we have twenty thousand laws, all made and enforced for the sole purpose of preventing us from enjoying these blessings.

The men who built a fence around the earth and said, "This belongs to us," served notice on the mass of mankind that they must get off the globe or become vassals.

"Equality" and "Fraternity" are fine words to build orations around, but there can be the equality of slaves and the fraternity of fools.

It were better to roam the hills and live on wild berries than to live luxuriously in a society saturated with law.

It is no use to speak of reform or revolution, or co-operation or communism, if Freedom is not there.

Land is the original monopoly out of which all other monopolies have grown.

Freedom is the watchword, let it ring out the old order and ring in the new. J. F.

WHAT REVOLUTION MEANS.

"Fourteen Chihuahua City men were recently arrested, charged with disloyalty to the revolutionary cause, as represented by Orozco. They protested they were innocent and are now carrying arms for him as common soldiers. Looking through the list one finds that it comprises two judges of the state supreme court, one ex-judge, three clerks of the supreme court, two members of the state legislature, two merchants, a politician and the manager for Alberto Madero, uncle of the president. The Mexican Revolution is hard on politicians. If we of the United States ever see such a collection of dignitaries sent to the front as common soldiers we shall think the world is coming to an end."—*Regeneracion*.

THE AGITATOR

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THE AGITATOR does not bear the union stamp because it is not printed for profit. But it is union, every letter of it. It is printed and published by unionists and their friends for the economic and political education of themselves and their fellow toilers. Much of the labor is given free. On the whole it is a work of love—the love of the idea, of a world fit for the free.

Everywhere the strong have made the laws and oppress the weak; and, if they have sometimes consulted the interests of society, they have always forgotten those of humanity.

Turgot

REVOLUTIONARY TACTICS

V

(This article is a continuation of new tactics for the I. W. W.)

ORGANIZATION IN THE INDUSTRIES.

The propaganda organizations in the industries would be the organized groups of militant direct actionists in the various unions in these industries.

A common and effective method of organizing a militant minority is through the medium of a rebel paper. A few militants get together and found a paper to circulate among the members of their union.

Such militant minority organizations will eventually have to be formed in the ranks of the I. W. W. unions if they ever grow to any considerable size—even as these organizations exist in French unions. This is manifest as a large percentage of their membership—perhaps, then, the vast majority, would inevitably be ignorant and even hostile, it would be impossible to keep the organization revolutionary without thorough co-operation between the rebels. To make rebels of all workers before accepting them would be impossible. Even if possible, it would be unnecessary. Every great strike, however revolutionary, shows that but a comparatively few clear-headed rebels scattered through the mass are sufficient to make it act. Any attempt to put an educational test barrier to the entry into the I. W. W. would render it even more of a sect than it is now.

Through the columns of this paper they expound their revolutionary doctrines, carry on a merciless criticism and exposure of their conservative or fake union officers, advocate and participate actively in strike movements, standardize their policies of opposition to their opponents, etc., etc. Inevitably all the rebel and progressive elements in the union group themselves about this paper. Consequently the old and usually more or less decrepit conservative machine which hitherto had controlled all means of inter-communication in the union and be able to do about as it pleased, uncontested, finds itself confronted by a vigorous national organization of militants willing and prepared to fight it at all points for the control of the union. It finds itself faced by an organization advocating much fitter doctrines than it does, and one which exploits fully every piece of crooked work it commits.

In this type of organization no headquarters are maintained, nor dues paid, the paper serving as the means of organization. It is supported by donations and subscriptions. For an illustration of its effectiveness, we don't need to look further than the despised A. F. of L., from which, by the way, we could learn much if we but studied instead of blindly condemned it.

The Revolt in the I. T. U.

For years past the International Typographical Union has been dominated by one of the most powerful and best organized machines in the A. F. of L. This machine is an oath-bound secret organization known as the "Wahnetas." Jim Lynch, president of the I. T. U., is at the head of it. Its purpose is to seize and conserve in the hands of its members the control of the I. T. U. and the cream of the work to be had in the printing in-

dustry. It is a job trust within the I. T. U.

As long as there was no thoroly organized opposition to it the "Wahnetas" formed one of those all powerful, invincible A. F. of L. machines, we I. W. W. talk so much of.

But now it has fallen on evil days. It is in serious danger of fighting for its existence. This change has been wrought in a few months by a few militants who are opposed to the methods of the "Wahnetas," and inspired by the I. W. W. doctrine that nothing can be done in the old unions. They gathered "the dope" on the "Wahnetas," and founded a paper, "The Progressive," in Denver, in which they exposed this machine, root and branch. The result was magical. Immediately all thru the ranks of the conservative I. T. U. the revolt spread and a strong organization sprang up around "The Progressive." At present all indications point to the dissolution in the near future of the "Wahnetas" and the defeat of Lynch for president at the next referendum election by the candidates of "the progressives." "The Progressive" is supported by subscriptions and donations.

Organizing the Militant Minorities.

In our organization of the militant minorities in the unions, we must pattern after this type of organization around a rebel paper, as it is the most effective extant. We can improve on it by having the members of these minority organizations—at least the live ones—organize and assess themselves to support their paper, get out literature, maintain the general national headquarters, perhaps keep a few speakers of their own in the field, etc. Such organizations and papers must be started in all unions, industries and industrial centers possible or advisable.

Probably the best way for us to proceed, after establishing the general national headquarters, would be to choose the most likely looking industry—probably the mining industry, as both the U. M. W. A. and W. F. of M. have big radical minorities—establish a paper therein and put it on a self-sustaining basis as soon as possible by organizing around it the rebels in the industry. This accomplished, the next most promising industry or industrial center could be selected and the process repeated until every important group of organized workers had an organized militant minority at work within its ranks.

Opportunist Policies.

The militant minorities would be organized on the theory of the evolutionary development of the labor movement from a conservative to a revolutionary status, consequently they would be opportunistic and vigorously exploit every occasion to speed this development. Say, for instance, a paper was established in the building trades to serve as the organ of the rebels in the various unions in this industry, to function much as "The Transport Worker," edited by Tom Mann, does in the English transportation industry. Around this paper the organized minorities in the various unions would develop.

The collective program of these militant minorities would be to organize and educate the building trades workers to fight as a unit, and on a revolutionary basis. To this end they would war singly and collectively on the obstacles in the way of this consummation. In this campaign their paper, or papers, would be invaluable as a means of securing coherent action, carrying on propaganda, etc. They would expose crooked union officials and politicians, show the futility of "craft" unionism, contracts and political action, carry on a propaganda for the general strike, sabotage, anti-militarism, etc., work for the fusion of building trades unions, the extension of their scope so as to take in helpers and other unskilled workers, and so on in every possibly way, seeking to revolutionize the industry.

There is every reason to believe that such concerted action on the part of the coalesced building trades minorities would be successful. But if it were not, if some or all, of the present building trades unions proved incapable of evolution and had to be replaced by new organizations, these same militant minorities would be excellent agencies for bringing this about.

Dual Organization.

The formation of a dual labor union—even a craft union—is a serious undertaking for the workers involved and should not be undertaken

unless no other alternative remains. This is because rival labor unions usually quit fighting their employers and spend their energies fighting each other. Very often one union will ally itself with the employers to the better crush its rivals. (I. W. W. history is replete with such tactics on the part of A. F. of L. unions.) The interests of the workers are thus compromised in general.

Nevertheless, occasionally, such dual organization offers the only, or at least most practical, means to depose an executive committee that has ceased to represent the interests of the organization, or to revolutionize some decrepit old union. In such a case the organized militant minority in the union in question is the best agency for the successful launching of the new organization—the old organization must be wiped out completely, for while a rag of it is left the excuse for jurisdictional warfare remains. The rebels, thoroly organized and taking active part in their union affairs, carry on a big propaganda against, say for instance, their corrupt and domineering union officials. When they believe they have created sufficient sentiment against these officers, they await some flagrant misdeed on their part, and when the resentment of the rank and file is at fever heat against their officers they launch their dual union. They seize a live issue at the psychological moment and stampede the mass into their organization. A case in point from the French labor movement.

French Tactics.

The French railroaders' union, including railroaders, except firemen and engineers, was controlled by Socialists and consequently strongly centralized with vast power resting in the national committee. During the recent railroad strike the abuses and incompetence of this committee were very harmful and manifest. At the union's recent convention—several months ago—the organized rebels made an issue of this national committee, and, tho in minority, forced a motion thru to reorganize and decentralize the union. (European Syndicalists invariably decentralize unions wherever possible). The old national committee, to whom this reorganization was entrusted, refused to obey the instructions of the convention. Thereupon the rebels launched a new railroaders' union, claiming the national committee had outlawed itself.

How this new organization, so cleverly launched, has succeeded may be inferred from a recent statement of Gustav Herve's in "La Guerre Sociale," that about all the old national committee has left is the handsome banner it recently patriotically carried at a prominent government official's funeral. (It was by a similar process to the above that the successful split among American electrical workers was engineered.)

An interesting case of successful dual organization tactics of a different type was mentioned in "The Chicago Daily Socialist" recently. The musicians' union of New York, controlling the best jobs in town, was a job trust with a prohibitory initiation fee. The musicians on the outside organized themselves into a rival union which the job trust was eventually forced to admit in toto into its ranks. This course of tactics, intelligently applied would doubtless go far towards breaking up the notorious job trust unions, which are such a drawback to the American labor movement. Compare this practical method with the I. W. W.'s present planless system of dragging militants out of the old unions or discouraging them from taking any active part in their affairs, thus disorganizing the militant minorities and rendering them incapable of taking advantage of the combination of live issue and psychological moment which is so essential to the success of a dual labor union.

This "coup d'état" principle of founding a dual labor organization applies as well to the A. F. of L. itself as to any of its unions. Some of the founders of the I. W. W. were more or less aware of the principle and that, that in founding the I. W. W., they were seizing the live issue at the psychological moment. They thought the A. F. of L. would rapidly go to pieces from the desertion of its unions to the I. W. W.

Wm. Z. FOSTER.

(The next issue will contain the concluding article of this series, with summary by the Editor.)

THE AGITATOR

THE SLAVE'S DEFY

Hail, masters of The Iron Heel!
Hail, monsters of a bleeding earth!
Hail, shotted guns and blades of steel!
Hail, Might-sired Right of jungle birth!
The myriads groan your crimsoned path
We wait the avenging aftermath.

You point your age-attested right,
Flanked by your Cyclops code of old,
And flaunt your god of sceptered might
That guards your bag of gory gold.
We raise the scarlet banner high
And fling you back the slave's reply.

Your mouth your bastard moral spells—
Twin-born with master-rule and code—
And threat your holy after-hells
In hope your god-scared slaves to goad.
Your holy lies and hells we flout
And all your gods and devils rout.

You brag the triumphs of your reign—
We see a pyramid of skulls.
You gloat the ages' coffered gain—
The potter's field your boast annuls.
We cry: "Give way ye beasts of prey!
Make way for man and liberty!"

You prate of peace while drenched in blood,
Late wrung from famished toilers' veins.
You chant us "love and brotherhood"
And forge still stronger bolts and chains.
We scorn to ape ye dastard knaves,
And cry: "To arms! Arouse ye slave!"

You threat at last, in maudlin fear,
Your guns, and bay with craven zeal
Your martial hosts, afar and nea.,
Your cannoned-court of last appeal.
We call aloud to sabered slaves
To stack their arms o'er tyrants' graves.

You halt, you start, with fear-shot heads,
And doubtful if to fight or fly.
Thru rifled hosts contagion spreads.
With Freedom's blood-red banner high
We shout the slave's war clarion free
And march thru death to liberty.

—J. EDWARD MORGAN.

JOSEPH MIKOLASEK: MARTYR

Two men have been murdered since the Free Speech Fight in San Diego began. Joseph Mikolasek is the last victim. He was shot in the I.W.W. headquarters, which the police raided, with the evident intent to commit murder.

The members had left the hall, on warning the police were coming. They came and fired a volley thru the door before breaking in. Not finding anyone within, they began clubbing a few workers standing near by. When they came back, Mikolasek, not knowing the situation, had entered the hall. The police ordered him out. He refused and was shot in the leg. He grasped an axe and threw it at the policeman who had shot him, cutting him slightly. Then the police riddled the wounded worker with holes. Twelve bullets being fired into him as he lay prostrate on the floor.

In the fusillade one policeman shot the other, slightly injuring him. A grand jury has indicted 15 of the workers, many of whom were not in the city at the time, for the shooting of the policemen.

Mikolasek died at the hospital after making a statement of his experience.

The police would not allow a funeral procession in San Diego, so he was buried in Los Angeles, with the respect which is due the martyrs of his class.

Mikolasek was an Industrial Worker, a student of sociology, and a writer of note in his native tongue, being a contributing editor to the Bohemian Anarchist weekly, "Volne Listy."

We shall not forget his brutal and cowardly murder. Among those who spoke at his funeral were Emma Goldman and Gus Tellsch. Fellow Worker Tellsch's speech follows:

AT THE CREMATORY

Fellow Workers, Friends, and Comrades: It is the silence of our fellow worker Mikolasek that makes me speak. Today we cremate a man who stood, fought, and died for the same principle as the men did in Chicago in 1887. They had to give their life because the price of Liberty is death; and so our fellow worker Mikolasek had to pay the terrible price of Liberty with his life.

But if these Guerrillas, these Bloodhounds of capitalism think that they can make us stop speaking by filling our bodies with bullets, then I will tell you frankly and

openly that they are greatly mistaken. They have tried many times to kill the free expression of men and women who had courage enough to think and speak the way they felt.

It is not the first time they have killed and it will not be the last time. It is their profession to kill and slay those who do not agree with the Gods of the State and the Gods of the Church.

They have Guillotined in Paris, they have shot in Barcelona, strangled to death in Chicago, Garroted in Tokio and Assassinated in San Diego; but let me tell you, friends and fellow workers, that there is one thing which they never can kill, which they never can strangle to death as they did in Chicago, or assassinate as they did in San Diego, and that is the Ideal of Anarchistic Industrial Unionism.

That is what Mikolasek really stood for. He was a member of the I.W.W. because he saw a field to carry on propaganda the way he understood best.

Now it is for us to attack this murderous, Plundering Institution of capitalism by continuing the work which our fellow worker, Mikolasek, could not finish and that is by spreading the Doctrine of discontent and Rebellion, so that we may be able to build up a society on an Anarchist Industrial basis.

GUS TELLSCH.

VIOLENCE BEGETS VIOLENCE

The Anarchists of America have for years been propagating in a peaceful manner their ideas for the regeneration of society. On numerous occasions the authorities of various cities have subjected them to persecution and suppressed their rights of free speech. Nevertheless, in spite of all the violence toward them, the Anarchists did not reply in kind. On the contrary, they constantly emphasized the peaceful methods of their propaganda.

But violence begets violence. Terror from above breeds terror below.

The authorities in different parts of the country have recently inaugurated a regime of terroristic oppression against every opponent of existing conditions. Peaceful assemblies have been summarily suppressed, and the right of free speech abrogated by force of physical violence. The scene of the most brutal persecution is at San Diego, Calif. Every vestige of free speech has been entirely suppressed there, and inoffensive men and women subjected to treatment recalling the pogroms in Russia. Irresponsible bands of Black Hundreds, known as vigilantes, are carrying on a reign of terror with the approval of the local authorities and apparently with the financial aid of the "respectable and law-abiding" element of the city.

If the public sentiment of the country and the passive attitude of the press continue to encourage these outrages we feel that the Anarchists and other social rebels will be forced, as a matter of self-defence, to answer violence with violence.

Not because they wish it, but because driven by utmost necessity.

ALEXANDER BERKMAN.
New York City.
May 16th, 1912.

HIPPOLYTE HAVEL.
H. KELLY.

NOTES

"I am elected a delegate to the National convention of the Socialist party with ten ex-preachers. Think of a working class party represented chiefly by ex-skypilots and cockroach lawyers. Can you beat that for absurdity? That is the expression of the party here in California." —Austin Lewis.

Since making the above most pertinent statement, Comrade Lewis has withdrawn from the S.P., giving as his reason that the workers cannot be freed by political action; that their hope lies in economic, industrial direct action. It is hoped he will now throw his fine talents and indomitable energy into the Syndicalist movement that is evolving, naturally, out of the experience of the past. All alert students of the labor problem, not bound by creeds, see, clearly, that the unions, infused with the revolutionary ideas, are the final hope.

Ray Stannard Baker, writing a report of the Lawrence strike in the May American Magazine, shows how poverty among the mill workers of New England is at such a stage that many foreigners who are eligible to vote and would like to vote if they could afford it are unable to because of the expense of taking out naturalization papers. One very intelligent Pole whom Mr. Baker asked why he did not become a voter replied very simply, "It costs four dollars to take out papers, and I have never seen the time when I could spare so much money." As a matter of fact, only three in ten of the males eligible for citizenship in Lawrence have taken out their naturalization papers.

THE AGITATOR EXCURSION

The third annual excursion to Home Colony, given by The Agitator Club of Seattle, will take place on

SUNDAY, JUNE 23rd.

The steamer "Fairhaven" will leave Pier 3, foot of Madison Street at 8 a.m. sharp, returning in the evening.

Dancing, boating, games, and other amusement will be provided.

Refreshments served on the boat. Dinner at Home, 50 cents. Tickets, \$1.00, Children under 12, 50 cents.

Tickets for sale at Lavroff's stand, 115 Prefontaine Place, and Raymer's, 1522 First Ave.

If you wish to be sure of the opportunity to take this delightful trip, get your tickets now.

THE EDITOR'S DEFENCE

The Editor of this paper has been convicted on the charge of "encouraging disrespect for the law". If this verdict is allowed to stand every radical paper in the State will be at the absolute mercy of the prosecutors, and may be thrown into jail at any moment.

The interest of free speech demands that this case be appealed, and we urge that you subscribe to this fund.

The Free Speech League.

NATHAN LEVIN, Treas. Home, Lakebay, Wash.

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THE AGITATOR

From the Mail Bag

"Isn't Syndicalism and I. W. W. one and the same? R. D."

Yes and No. The I. W. W. took its fundamental basis, Revolutionary Industrialism, from Syndicalism; so, to that extent it is Syndicalistic. In all other respects it is original. The "wheel" is new and the most original idea in economics since Robert Owens' Phalanx.

Syndicalism has no blueprint to go by. It just evolves naturally out of the past. It holds that ideas are the all-important essentials, and that once men are thoroughly imbued with them, any form of organization will do.

The I. W. W. plan of organizing new labor unions in "the one big union" is not Syndicalism. Syndicalism does not organize where unions already exist. It holds that where a union already exists, that is so much work done and starts right in at its work of propaganda.

The Syndicalist Leagues now being formed are organizations of propagandists through which the Syndicalist agitators will be associated for the purpose of publishing literature, etc.

The plan of organization and the spirit of the I. W. W. is towards centralization. Syndicalism moves in the opposite direction. It propagates decentralization and local autonomy.

The I. W. W. is non-political. Syndicalism is anti-political. These are the main differences. You will thus see that Syndicalism and the I. W. W. are not one and the same.

J. T. S.—You are quite mistaken in thinking that the Syndicalist movement is "a veiled attack upon the I. W. W." Syndicalism wears no veil. It is open and above board, and it is after much larger game than the I. W. W. Syndicalism is an attack upon capitalism and all the sham that surround it. It is fighting for all the I. W. W. stands for, and more. How then can it be an attack upon that organization. It is, perhaps, your fear that is father to the thought.

Syndicalism aims to make industrial mass action popular with the labor unions. Is that an attack upon the I. W. W.?

Syndicalism differs from the I. W. W. in that it does not think the old unions are doomed to perish. Syndicalism aims to rejuvenate the old unions, to put new life into them, to teach them in their own ranks what you are inviting them into the I. W. W. to learn. Is that an attack on the I. W. W.?

G. B.—"The Passing Show" will explain, partially, why we came out so strongly for syndicalism. "Syndicalism" is the broad, all-inclusive term for the Revolutionary economic movement of the toilers, and it behooves every comrade, not only to acquaint himself with it, but to join and help organize syndicalist leagues everywhere. Of course if you are a parlor philosopher you will not bother about Syndicalism, and Syndicalism will not bother about you.

R. M.—You are mistaken about Socialists in San Diego, so we cut out that part of your article. We appreciate your effort, especially on account of your age and will be glad to hear from you again.

THE SAN DIEGO OUTRAGE.

The atrocious and inhuman treatment which was meted out to Comrades Ben Reitman and Emma Goldman during their sojourn in San Diego, that city of our "wonderful Golden West" which now lies torn and bleeding in the clutches of a fierce contest between the workers and parasites, is enough to arouse even the most stagnant intellect, forms grounds sufficient for the merciless abolition of this monstrous economic system, constitutes most adequate reason for our ruthless and immediate hurling from their pedestal of usurped power and omnipotence that band of robbers and exploiters who term themselves our masters. A noble man was tarred and feathered, a frail woman hounded and driven from the city like a dog. The reason? They dared to at-

tempt the expression of their earnest beliefs and convictions.

This indescribable atrocious deed was not committed by the Cossacks of dark Russia, nor came it from the hands of the savage tribes of the dense African wilds. (The latter have not yet come in contact with the emissaries from civilization, and, therefore, are above such action.) No; it was perpetrated by the Native Sons of the Golden West. (Does not your blood thrill at the mention of the latter phrase?) in the twentieth century—in this great age of historical research and scientific discovery. It was committed in the "land of the free and the home of the brave." What a farce! What mockery! Away with such damnable UNCIVILIZED civilization! Away with such mock liberty! It is fit only to be scathingly denounced and trampled under foot.

The brutish, the outrageous, the inhuman and monstrous action on the part of the San Diego authorities has given the radical movement an incalculable stimulus, has won more adherents and recruits for that stupendous army which shall finally destroy all tyranny and despotism, which shall ultimately wipe all parasites, all robbers, all exploiters and all extortionists from the face of the earth, than Emma possibly could have done had she been permitted to speak as she had desired. The master class is slowly but surely killing itself with its own arms, and will eventually effect its destruction by the use of its own frightful weapons.

ROSA MARKUS, aged 15.

THE TITANIC AND CAPITALISM.

This system of society may properly be compared with the "Titanic." It, too, has its first, second and third class passengers, and is rushing onward at full speed to destruction. One man in the "crows nest" has reported danger ahead, but the captains of industry heed not his warning. Judge Geary, president of the United States Steel Corporation, said recently:

"Things are being said nowadays very similar to what was said shortly before the French revolution. If the rich men—the corporations of the country—do not bring better conditions for the poor the mob will bring them, and mighty soon."

The capitalist class is much like those people on board the Titanic who thought the ship was so large and well equipped that it was unsinkable. They believe that they are so well entrenched industrially and politically that they can not be overthrown. But the Titanic struck a superior power—an iceberg—and went down. Those who think the capitalist ship is unsinkable better open their eyes and they will see a tremendous iceberg ahead, growing larger and larger. This iceberg is manifested in a great, ever-increasing army of revolutionists. Like the Atlantic iceberg, this army is developed through natural conditions and environments. The people comprising this army are nameless. They have no titles or social position. They are despised and hated by the captains of industry. But they make up a greater and more solid substance than the iceberg which caused the destruction of the Titanic. Whenever the social ship strikes this human iceberg there will be a terrible collision. The collision between the iceberg and the Titanic will be small and very insignificant in comparison.

The life saving equipment on the Titanic proved fatal. One thousand six hundred human lives perished, only seven hundred survived. The life-saving and property-guarding equipments of this capitalist system will also prove fatal.

Those who think this social ship unsinkable take warning. There is a danger ahead. It will strike an iceberg. An iceberg far more powerful than all the Atlantic icebergs put together.

This capitalist ship, with all its captains and parasites, will go down in the whirlpool of the coming revolution. The revolutionary army is rapidly increasing. It has only one flag the world over—the red flag. It has no tools, no property, no country and no love for its masters—it is cold as ice. The collision will be terrific and disastrous. It's to be hoped, however, that it will not result in any loss of life. But from all appearances it seems that bloodshed is unavoidable.

All human blood so far has been shed by the masters. History is marked by a long red stream of proletarian blood. All wars have been fought

by the workers in the interest of the shirkers. But the last war—the determining battle—will be fought by the workers in their own interests. When the Titanic disaster shall have been forgotten the murder of 50,000 slaves in the industries of this nation every year will be fresh in the memory of the workers. What kind of reward do the masters of the bread expect? Can the slaves have mercy upon them, when they remember all those inhuman atrocities the masters have perpetrated upon them in all ages past? Can the slaves return kindness for brutality?

The capitalist class may think they have enough police, soldiers and plain thugs to force the revolutionists back into submission whenever they rise in rebellion, but they will surely find themselves as badly mistaken as the people on board the Titanic who relied upon the compartments, and thought they had enough lifeboats.

Once the slaves rise in rebellion as a class, nothing will save this capitalist system. Who ever heard of a class of people digging their own graves? Still, this is just what the master class is doing. And the workers are preparing themselves, not only to hurl them into their graves, but also to sing the "international" at their funeral.

After the dead shall have buried their dead, the workers of the world will begin to live.

There will then be but one nation, one people, one human family with true community of interest, and each and all will enjoy the fruits of their labor. Education, culture, joy and happiness will then crown the progress of all mankind.

E. S. NELSON.

AS THE CHURCH SEES US.

Rev. E. Ang. Skogsbergh, a Seattle preacher, foamed out the following last Sunday:

"The spirit of iniquity and lawlessness is working overtime nowadays, both secretly and openly, to throw law and order overboard, so that the element of hatred and unbelief may get hold of the reins. And then—what? All that is necessary is to find the leader qualified with a devilish and hardened heart who can lead the hordes of God-hatred and lawlessness.

"An when that time is here, woe to them that live and resist.

"We have on one hand a worldly, unbelieving, doubting church in the form of the higher critics, and on the other hand the Socialists with their 'Down-with-the-bible-and-God' propaganda going hand in hand.

"What is the meaning of this everlasting preaching on our street corners of hatred and blasphemy? What is the meaning of this I. W. W. movement? Do not fool yourself with the belief that this sowing of weeds will not have its awful harvest in time. Think how little is needed when the time is ripe to start a revolutionary storm of blood and destruction in the whole civilized world. Then the church will be the first target, for it stands for law and order, what these agitators oppose."

"The big letters 'U. S.' are supposed to stand for 'United States,' but when we stop to consider how beautifully we are taken in by high tariff and low tariff, etc., it must be admitted that it would be more sensible to say these big letters stand for 'Us Suckers'."—The Eyeopener.

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J. R. BURTON, Receiver.

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